

Stephen Y.F. Pang
Application No.: 09/353,537
Page 2

PATENT

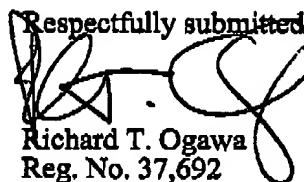
REMARKS

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over McCormick et al. and "If unwanted e-mail is in the eye of the beholder then I want a spam button." (August 3, 1998). Applicant asserts that the August 3, 1998 reference is not prior art, since it was published after the priority date of the subject application. The subject application claims priority to July 15, 1998, which is before the publication date of August 3, 1998. Accordingly, Claims 1-10 are patentable over the cited references.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard T. Ogawa
Reg. No. 37,692

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: (415) 576-0200
Fax: (415) 576-0300
RTO:ad
PA 3236321 v1